

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2 290 BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

IDE - 9 2013

Cindy Bladey
Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch
Office of Administration
Mail Stop: TWB-05-B01M
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Ms. Bladey:

In accordance with Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Final Supplement to Supplement 38 to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (FSGEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants (CEQ#20130183), regarding the renewal of operating licenses for an additional 20 years of operation for the Indian Point Nuclear Generating Units Nos. 2 and 3 (IP2 and IP3). IP2 and IP3 are located in Westchester County in the Village of Buchanan, New York, approximately 24 miles north of New York City.

Subsequent to NRC's release of the final supplemental environmental impact statement (FSEIS) for relicensing IP2 and IP3 in December 2010, NRC staff identified new information warranting changes to its assessment in the FSEIS. This included information on the entrainment and impingement field data units of measure, the completion of a study characterizing the IP2 and IP 3 thermal plume, and completion of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation on shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*).

EPA reiterates our comments on impingement and entrainment data as stated in our letter dated August 14, 2012, and comments made by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in its letter dated August 20, 2012. New data would have provided NRC and others with the information necessary to determine the level of significance of the impacts of impingement and entrainment to the existing Hudson River ecosystem.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the document. If you have any questions, please call Lingard Knutson of my staff at (212) 637-3747.

Sincerely,

Judy-Ann Mitchell, Chief

Sustainability and Multimedia Programs Branch

Clean Air and Sustainability Division

cc: Paul Giardina, CASD-RIAB